

THE TRIGGER

TIM BUTCHER

READ BY GERARD DOYLE

“This is first class history and in a year swamped with First World War centenary books, it’s the one you should read first.”

—ANDREW ROBERTS, author of *The Storm of War*

On a summer morning in Sarajevo almost a hundred years ago, a teenager took a pistol out of his pocket and fired not just the opening rounds of the First World War but the starting gun for modern history. By killing Archduke Franz Ferdinand, Gavrilo Princip started a cycle of events that would leave 15 million dead from fighting between 1914 and 1918 and that proved fatal for empires and a way of ruling that had held for centuries.

The Trigger focuses on the drama of the incident itself by following Princip’s journey. By retracing his steps from the feudal frontier village of his birth, through the mountains of the northern Balkans to the city of Belgrade, and ultimately to Sarajevo, Tim Butcher illuminates our understanding of Princip and makes discoveries about him that have eluded historians for a hundred years. Drawing on his own experiences there as a war reporter during the 1990s, Butcher unravels this complex part of the world and its conflicts, showing how the events that were sparked that day in June 1914 still have influence today.

Tim Butcher is a bestselling author, former foreign correspondent, and explorer whose books blend history with travel. His first book, *Blood River*, was shortlisted for the Samuel Johnson Prize, and his second, *Chasing the Devil*, was longlisted for the Orwell Prize. Tim lives in South Africa with his family.

Gerard Doyle records everything from adult, young adult, and children’s books to literary fiction, mysteries, humor, adventure, and fantasy. He has won countless *AudioFile* Earphones Awards and was named a Best Voice in Young Adult Fiction in 2008. His recent audiobooks include *The Graves Are Walking* by John Kelly.



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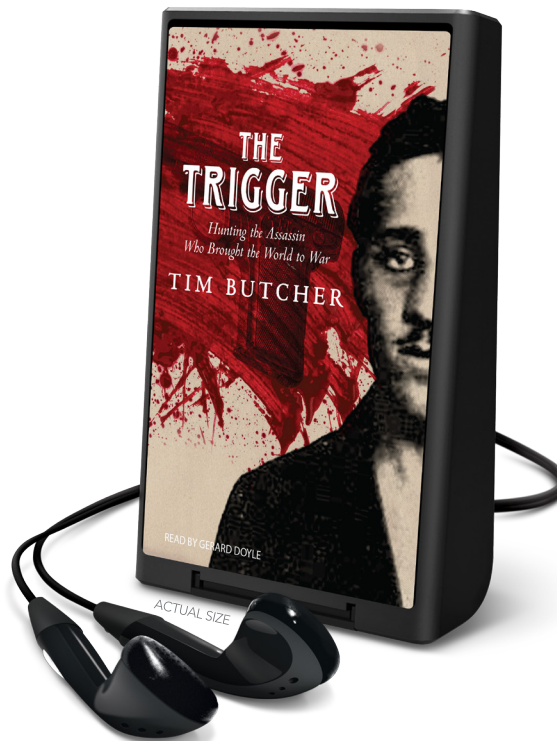


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